

The Fresno City College RAMPAGE



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Letter from an FCC Iraqi student

***Student hopes resistance forces topple Hussein's brutal regime**

This letter is from a Fresno City College student who moved from Iraq in the early 1980's. The Rampage interviewed him two issues ago, and since that time, allied forces have liberated Kuwait.

Saddam Hussein does not want to let his power slip away and therefore he is killing his own people who have decided to protest his rule.

Since Saddam Hussein came to power in a mysterious way Iraqi people have been terrified. If people don't cheer for him or for foreign nationals living in Iraq, they are put under suspicion for being disloyal to the regime.

Saddam was in control of the armed forces even when he was a vice president. It's hard to tell if people like him, fear him or both. People are mixed up between fear and the improvement of living standards that occurred after Saddam came to power.

Hussein separated and killed thousands of citizens to clear his way into power. Most rich, highly educated people fled the country because they felt the impending

danger of living under such regime. My family was among this group. My father moved to Kuwait to find a better job. He succeeded and I admire him a lot. Then in 1980 we decided to go back home to Iraq to take care of our house and lands that we left behind.

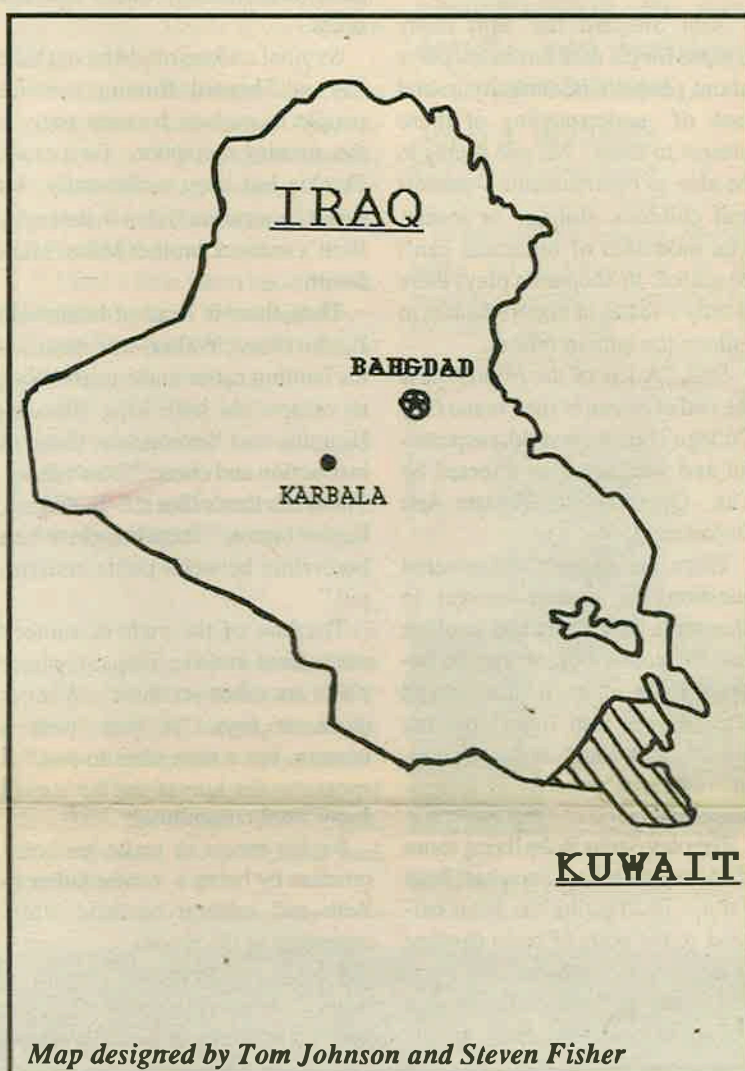
Iraqi people are not like other Arabs who like to live in other countries. Iraqi's love their home land, but the situation is hard. To get better jobs you don't have to be an Iraqi, you have to join the Ba'ath party and work yourself up. Other people live their life waiting for changes. It is sick just thinking about it.

Iraq is a rich country with lots of natural and industrial resources especially oil. With killing or ousting the educated people all these treasures fall in the regime's hands to spend on military and wars. The war with Iran was costly and brought death to almost every family in Iraq among them two of my cousins died in 1983 during a ground war. People are fed up with fighting, constant shortages of food, fuel, electricity and so on... What does this mad man want? Why is he killing my people??

His secret police called Amn penetrate every neighborhood and every street of Iraq filing reports on the people who are disloyal to the regime. That creates tremendous fear between people, even among families. That is why people don't know how or where to start organizing some kind of resistance and power against him.

The war with Iran was terrible. People disapprove of fighting against the Moslem nation of Iran, but to make it short, the rule was "You go to war or you get killed." It's not much of a choice, and the days go by.

The war ended with destruction of all kinds. The solution for Saddam to gain the losses back was to invade Kuwait. Now he lost what he was trying to gain plus the trust of the people around him. The resistance against him is gaining power day by day. Hopefully soon they will be strong enough to push him out. It is a shame to see this man leading the great people of my home land to embarrassment. It is sad to think of what happened to Kuwait.



Map designed by Tom Johnson and Steven Fisher

FCC might get a job for you

Kacy Kiggins
Rampage staff

Students attending Fresno City College who are seeking employment have somewhere to turn for assistance.

The FCC Job Placement Services, located in the counseling center on the second floor of the Student Services Building, offers many guides in helping students to find a job in the area of their choice.

According to Ruth Tarver, coordinator of Job Placement Services, one of the most important things Job Placement does is establish a link between the employer and the student.

First, however, the student must make an appointment with a job developer from Job Placement to discuss potential opportunities and to fill out an application.

"Once he completes that, he is invited to use the job boards (a listing of available jobs posted outside the Student Services Building)," said Tarver.



Jira Parakul/Rampage
Ruth Tarver

"When he finds a job that he is interested in, he writes down its number and brings it in. Then he will begin to talk with a developer about that job."

If the student is qualified for that particular job, a referral is made by the job developer and the student must contact the employer immediately for an interview, added Tarver.

Job Placement also helps the student prepare for the interview with the potential employer.

Videos which give advice on how to handle a job interview are avail-

able for the student to watch if he has never been to one, or has attended several without being hired.

Explaining the convenience of the video tapes, Tarver stated, "We find that this way, the student can come in whenever he has time in his schedule."

Unfortunately, Job Placement has not been utilized by a large number of students in the past.

"Last spring, only 75 graduates came in during the semester (out of approximately 500 students who graduated)," said Tarver.

"However, the placement rate of those 75 students broke down to 67 percent...higher than some of the other community colleges."

To spark student interest, Job Placement Services is sponsoring a Job Fair on Thursday, April 25 on the walkway between the fountain and the Free Speech Area.

There will be at least 80 employers on hand, looking to hire students for both part-time and full-time positions.

In the meantime, however, Tarver urges all students, especially graduating sophomores, to take advantage of Job Placement Services as soon as possible.

Suspect in FCC campus rape arrested in Arizona

Celeste Cox
Managing editor

The suspected rapist the Fresno Police Department knows as Sadiq I. Abdullah, 24, was arrested on Feb. 2 in Tempe, Arizona, according to Fresno City College Police Chief Kenneth Shrum.

Abdullah allegedly raped a 19-year-old Fresno State student on the FCC campus last Sept. 9.

Tempe police arrested Abdullah after he allegedly raped and stabbed a young female in Arizona.

He tied the victim to her bed but she was able to untie herself and call the police.

A police officer "staked out the (victim's) bank," said Shrum.

When Abdullah arrived to use his victim's stolen ATM card, a police

"It will probably be quite a while before he sees daylight again."

- Kenneth Shrum
FCC Police Chief

officer arrested him. Abdullah, who is also known as Michael Sutton, Mustafa Sadiq, Michael Mustafa, Jesse Smith and Steve Allen, is in custody in Arizona on charges of rape, robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

In addition to the assaults in Fresno and Arizona, he also stands accused of rapes in Portland, Oregon, San Francisco and San Bernardino.

"It will probably be quite a while before he sees daylight again," said Shrum.

Reviews

Shepard views intimacy in the rough

Play Review: "A Lie of the Mind"

Ann Ridolfi
Rampage staff

Sam Shepard has won many awards for his dark but funny plays about people's inhumanity to and lack of understanding of those closest to them. No one seems to be able to communicate—parents and children, siblings or lovers. The mountain of bitterness can't be scaled. In Shepard's plays there is only a shade of bizarre humor to lighten the human misery.

Still, "A Lie of the Mind," near the end of its run in the Fresno City College Theatre, is vivid, suspenseful and well-acted as directed by Tim Quinn of the Theatre Arts Department.

There are enough unanswered questions to sustain interest in Shepard's play about two families and the young couple caught between them. Yes, it does sound like "Romeo and Juliet" but the strange and rough-hewn characters here aren't nearly so sympathetic.

The play opens in the living room of a Montana home. Daughter Beth (Janice Thompson) has been battered to the point of brain damage by her jealous husband. So when her brother-in-law Frankie (Andre Martinez) comes to carry apolo-

gies and to see that she has survived, Beth confuses him with her husband Jake (Jeff White), whom she still loves.

Symbol seekers might have a field day with Shepard. Hunting, in which people themselves become prey, is the running metaphor. First of all, Frankie has been accidentally (or was it an accident?) shot in the leg by Beth's redneck brother Mike (Mark Smith).

Then, there is head-of-household Baylor (Steve Walter) who retires to his hunting cabin in the near woods to escape his wife Meg (Rhonda Higgins) and her constant blend of instruction and cheer: "Don't shout. The walls don't like it." In disgust, Baylor blares, "There has got to be a borderline between polite and stupid."

The lure of the male-dominated west seems to drive Shepard, whose plays are often set there. When a character says, "A man loves a woman, but a man likes to run," it speaks to the lure of the open road away from commitment.

Baylor seems to make his compromise by being a caring father to Beth and tolerant husband while retreating to the woods.

While Frankie is held captive at Baylor's house, his brother is holed up in his bedroom with an American



From left to right: Beth (Janice Thompson), Frankie (Andre Martinez), Meg (Rhonda Higgins), and Baylor (Steve Walter) in "A Lie of the Mind."

flag draped around his neck.

Enter stable sister Sally (Christine Sweeney) whose unexpected arrival annoys her mother Lorraine (Shurene Kennedy).

Jake, paralyzed by his own fear, says, "I'm not going out there anymore. Out there is crazy."

Out in the world, he felt responsible for the death of the father who abandoned the family years before.

And he fears he's killed Beth. With what initiative he has left, he goes to see her.

There's color in Shepard's lan-

guage: "He smelled like dirty laundry, cigarettes, and Tiger Rose booze," the salty Lorraine confides to her daughter Sally. There's also a sense of foreboding, as though the world is a dangerous place and its inhabitants walking dead.

The cast is uniformly convincing. Walter is almost lovable as Baylor and draws humor from his lines.

Kennedy, with her husky voice, is funny and touching as Jake's protective mom who has become jaded but not broken.

Sweeney is graceful and sensi-

tive as Sally. She has an appealing stage presence that reminds a bit of Winona Ryder.

Higgins is cheery as the mother who refuses to see the dark side of reality, but her role becomes a Pollyanna caricature at times.

Thompson in her role must convey trouble in speaking complete thoughts, and does it well, especially as she shows change in her condition.

Martinez as wounded captive Frankie is natural as we see his worsening condition and loss of hope. And as Beth's avenging brother, Smith is forceful and frightening.

White as Jake seems vulnerable in the aftermath of his deed. There's no hint of the jealous spouse in his portrayal, but it's intriguing anyway.

The split set designed by Frederick Agnew is simple and effective allowing the action to shift back and forth between Jake's bedroom on the left, to Baylor's living room on the right. Taped blue grass music by the Red Clay Ramblers punctuates the action.

All in all, for those who are fascinated by Shepard's dark view of intimacy—of relationships that erupt like volcanoes—"A Lie of the Mind" offers riveting theatre.



Meg Ryan stars as Pamela Courson, the companion of Jim Morrison's (Val Kilmer).

Stone strikes a chord in movie about Doors

Steve Diddy & T.H. Lee
Contributing writers

"The Doors" is an Oliver Stone film about the legendary band from the late 60's and early 70's. It focuses on the life of the band's controversial singer and lyricist, Jim Morrison.

Often, portrayals of real-life characters on the big screen fall short of recreating the reality behind the mystique; either by the director's bias towards his subject or the self-serving motives of production companies.

With that in mind, the Rampage sent two of their finest critics to find out if moviegoers will be given a taste of the real Jim Morrison, or merely a watered-down fake.

Steve: I was impressed by Oliver Stone's refusal to hide the fact that Morrison was an alcoholic and experimented heavily with drugs. Often, when directors make films about people they idolize, as Stone did, they want to conceal the bad and glorify the good.

Lee: I have to agree with you there. Being an expert in this area,

the scenes depicting the use of drugs and magic rituals seems right on target. How you predicted the first scene on the way to the flick, Steve, I'll never know. That scene, when Jim sees the dying Indians, sets the tone for the rest of the way.

Steve: Everyone should read "No One Here Gets Out Alive" by Jerry Hopkins and Danny Sugerman before they see "The Doors". Reading the book helped me decide if the movie was an accurate portrayal.

Lee: As far as I'm concerned, the movie was superb—Val Kilmer's performance as Jim Morrison, the intensity of the live concert re-enactments, the manic pace of the movie, the symbolism, everything.

Steve: That's great Lee, but, as I was saying before you interrupted me, the book mentions that the most influential event in Jim's life came, as a boy, while traveling with his family in the desert and seeing the dying Indians on the side of the road. Stone was right on when he made this the first scene of the movie. You're right about Kilmer. I found out that he sang all of the live Doors' scenes himself.

Lee: And Meg Ryan was fabu-

lous playing Jim's girlfriend. The scene where she loses her mind at the party is a classic. I'd have to say that Stone filmed the whole thing with just the right mixture of reverence, integrity and brutal honesty to pull it off; without losing himself in the idolatry and mystique which surrounded Jim Morrison.

Steve: I consider Stone a master of the cinema verite genre. "The Doors" gave me the same unsettling, uneasy, slap-in-the-face feeling as Stone's "Born on the Fourth of July" did. His use of an unstable, wandering camera eye followed Jim's unstable life on the edge.

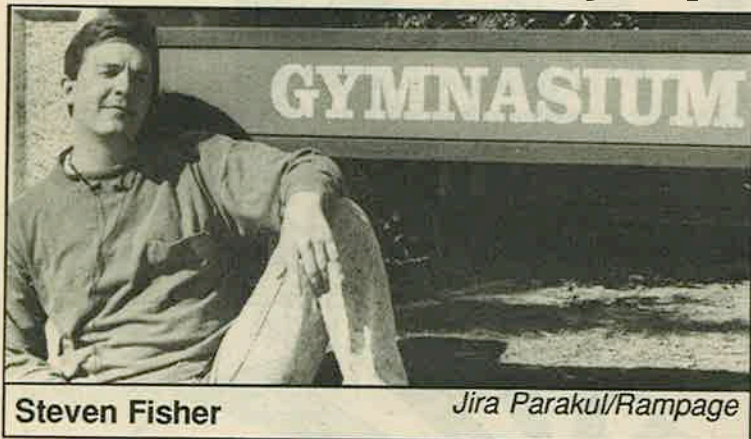
Lee: Stone captures the essence of Jim's internal and external struggles, which is the ultimate success of the movie.

Steve: In closing, I'd just like to say that if it is entertainment you are looking for this is not the movie to see. Jim Morrison never considered himself an entertainer, and tested the limitations of everybody around him. Stone is testing his audience to see how much reality they can handle.

SPORTS

Commentary

Pros take over Olympic basketball



Steven Fisher

Jira Parakul/Rampage

Steven Fisher
Rampage staff

Imagine for a moment you are watching the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain. In the gold medal game of the basketball tournament the United States has just defeated the Soviet Union 145-98. Michael Jordan tossed in 65 points in the rout. Magic Johnson added 25 points and a record 28 assists.

It may sound outrageous but consider the United States Olympic Committee's decision to allow professional basketball players to compete on the U.S. squad in the 1992 games. No one will be more pleased with this new opportunity than Corporate America.

Talk about an advertiser's fantasy come true. In one place you have the likes of Jordan, Magic,

Barkley, and many of their fellow superstars.

Companies such as shoe manufacturers will be lining up around the block for an opportunity to have their product mentioned in the same breath as the stars. The network that has the TV rights for this one will also make out quite well on this deal.

This could make for an exciting vacation for the NBA players but what about the amateurs? The Olympics are suppose to be the pinnacle of amateur athletics. Now where do talented young college players go to show their stuff? Aside from the cash-driven NCAA Tournament, there are few amateur events that merit national attention.

It is not as if the pros haven't had their time in the spotlight. Is it really going to add that much to

Michael Jordan's career to have another gold medal? It might however, be the highlight of some young player's career if given the chance.

The question is, do our pro players need to compete in the games? Why, after all of these years, should we change our teams?

It could be related to the disappointing US teams recently. Maybe the US isn't satisfied with an occasional silver among their gold medals.

The standard argument is that all of the other nations use professional players, so why shouldn't we? The truth is that our amateur athletes are treated as well as most professionals in other countries. If you don't believe that, just talk to the boys from UNLV.

The main handicap the US faces is only playing as a team for a few months, when European teams play together year round.

The U.S.O.C. should really analyze its motives for making the decision. If it is done in the best interest of the Olympics and the athletes in mind, then good.

If, however, it is done with the almighty dollar in mind, then a second look may be warranted.

In the meantime we are left with images of Magic, Michael and the boys having some summer fun. It will be a sight to see but is that what the Olympics are all about?

Soccer coach reigns supreme among peers

Steve Carr
Editor

Fresno City College soccer coach Bill Neal earned the 1991 California Coaches Association Community College Men's Soccer Coach of the Year Award.

Neal guided the Rams to the state quarterfinals last season. The dribblers were 7-0-1 in the Camino Norte Conference, capturing the title for the second straight year, and 13-4-1 overall.

"I feel a little taken back by this, I didn't expect it," Neal said. "Any award like this is dependent upon the players in your program."

Neal, 64, has coached the FCC men's soccer team since its beginning in 1975.

His 16-season record of 166-99-27 includes six conference championships, including a state finals runnerup finish in 1989.

In a letter informing Neal of the commendation, California Coaches Association President John J. Williams said, "This award gives much deserved recognition to your coaching excellence and your professional contributions of time, service, and dedication to the profession and athletics."

"This award gives much deserved recognition to your coaching excellence and professional contributions to time, service and dedication to the profession..."

John J. Williams
C.C.A. President

In the last four seasons, Neal has taken on double-duty as the women's soccer coach compiling a record of 36-15-18.



P.I.O.

Soccer coach Bill Neal

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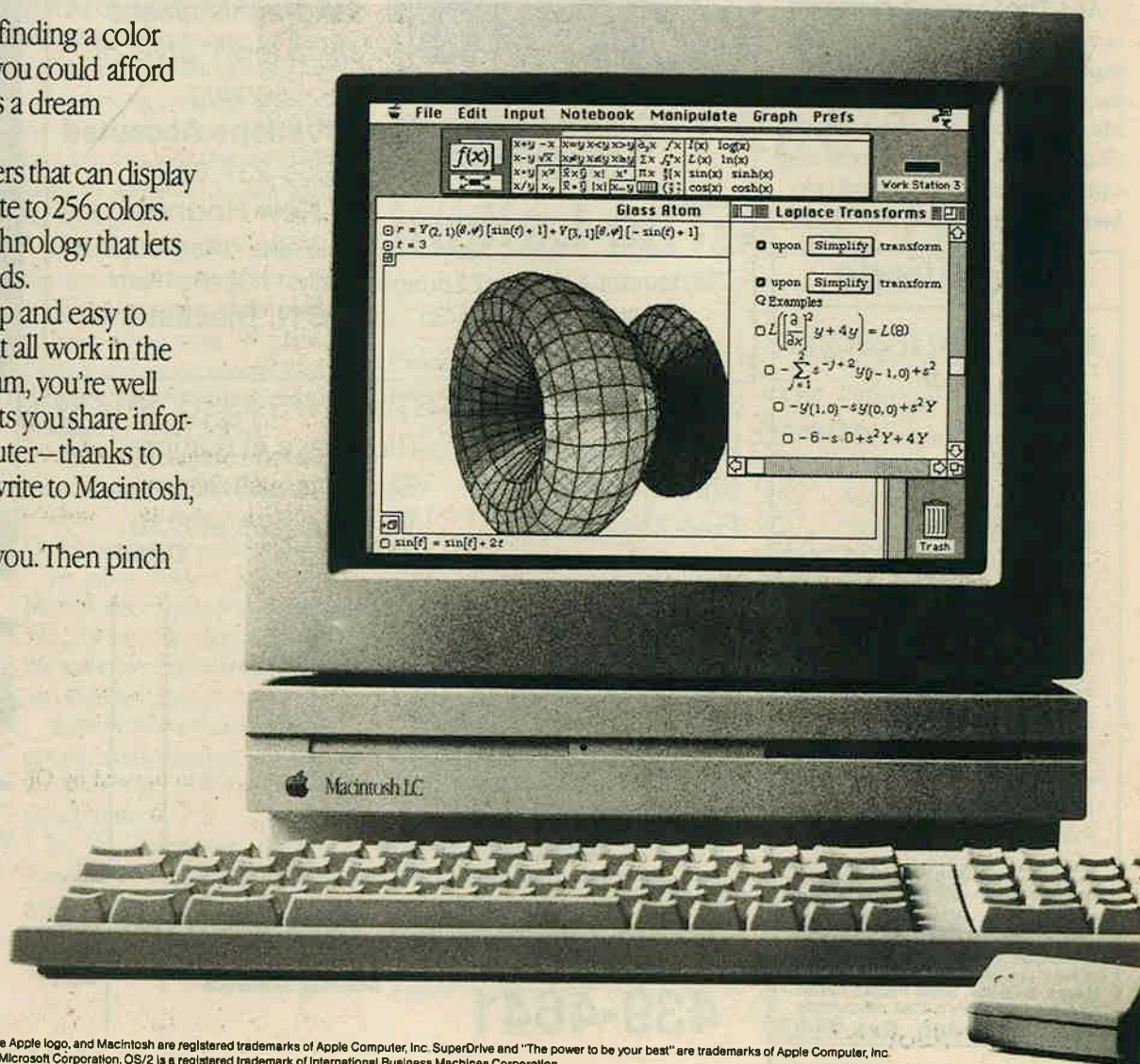
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Concert review: Scorpions

Hurricane rocks Selland Arena

T.H. Lee
Contributing Guru

Coming on the heels of a week-long storm which drenched the Fresno area, the Selland Arena was hit by a "hurricane" Thursday, March 7.

Just as the earlier storm provided much needed drought relief, the Scorpions, a very influential band hailing from Germany, provided relief to thousands of rock and roll fans here in the valley- fans who had not seen a big rock and roll show in the area since Robert Plant played last summer.

And they were not alone. Trixter, a fresh young band from here in the States, opened the festivities with an excellent set, punctuating their performance with friendly exchanges with the Fresno audience; which, by this time, had begun slowly but surely to churn itself into a frenzy.

Performing under the prescribed limitations opening bands are known to face, Trixter did everything it could to acquaint itself with the audience, highlighting their set with two hit singles, One In A Million and Give It To Me Good. When they joined hands at the front of the stage, bowed, and said goodbye to the audience, it could be plainly seen that Trixter had gained the admiration of many new fans in the audience.

There was little doubt during intermission, however, who the fans had really come to see. And, when the Scorpions finally burst onto the stage after intermission, all present became aware of a rock and roll tidal wave, with a force and fury of immense proportions, crashing through Fresno.

And The Scorpions, riding the crest of this wave, did little to disappoint. Fronted by Klaus Meine, they opened with "Tease Me Please Me," a cut off their latest album, *Crazy World*. The crowd, now in a state of total and unrestrained celebration, sang along as the Scorpions

intermingling songs off their new album with older classics from their past, showed why they have endured as a band for over two decades.

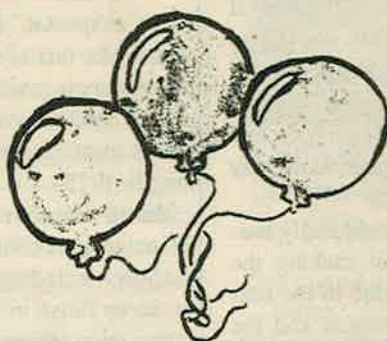
The strength of their live show, Meine's elf-like movements and incredible vocal talent, the lighting flashes of brilliance displayed on guitar, the thunderous sound, the overall professionalism, could only be seen and heard to be believed. And, when they ran off stage during the sing-along of "Holiday", it seemed hard to believe it could already be over.

Noone, however, was foolish enough to head for the doors. Returning after a quick break, the Scorpions unleashed the rest of the

set, bringing the entire audience to its feet with the opening licks to "Big City Nights".

The intensity didn't peak there. "Noone Like You", "Still Loving You", and a few other classic cuts soon followed, introducing those who may not have known the true power of the Scorpions to the elevated confines all die-hard fans are well accustomed.

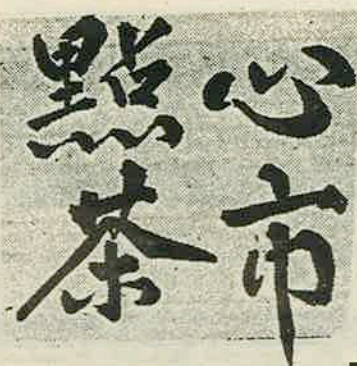
By the time the Scorpions closed the set with the anthemic, "Rock You Like a Hurricane", any signs of rock-deprivation among the audience had been swept away. And as the calm settled in, the people left to go where the night led them. The hurricane had passed, but the celebration had just begun.



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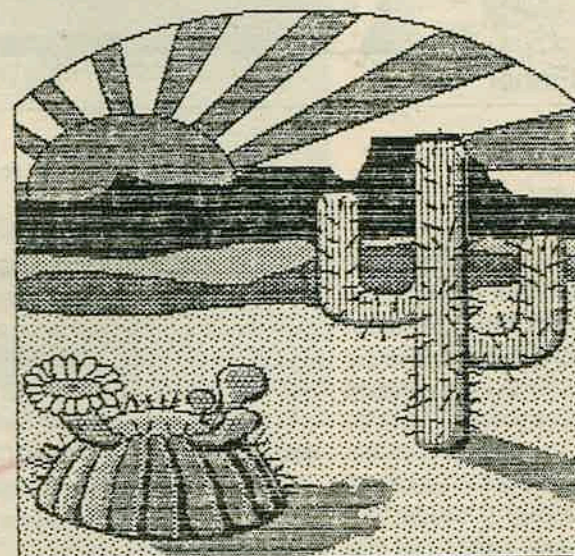
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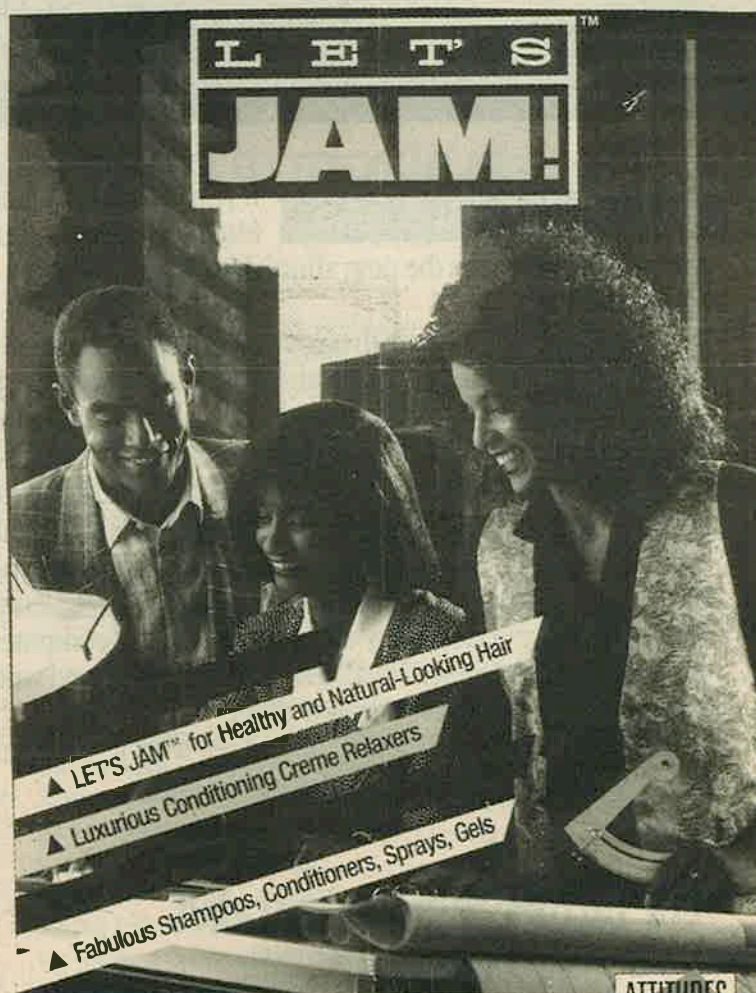
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